

# **UNO Headquarters in Bronx For 3 to 5 Years Seen Likely**

## ***Hunter College Apparently Decided Upon at Request of Byrnes—Lyons Expresses Hope World Body Will Stay Permanently***

**By MORRIS L. KAPLAN**

Hunter College in the Bronx apparently will become the world capital of the United Nations for three to five years, it was learned yesterday. Referring further inquiries to UNO officials or to the Mayor, Mr. Byrnes said he had no objections to the Mayor's indicating what the letter said.

While Mayor O'Dwyer announced at City Hall that he had received no formal request from the UNO for authority to release the four buildings to that organization, a usually reliable source indicated that Secretary of State James F. Byrnes had expressed this wish in a letter to the Mayor. Mr. O'Dwyer at a press conference at City Hall disclosed that a contract was being drawn between the Board of Higher Education and the UNO, in which the city will join, giving the UNO occupancy of two Hunter buildings and a cafeteria from March 21 to May 15. Then Mr. O'Dwyer left for a private dinner and was not available for comment on the Byrnes letter.

Through a spokesman, James E. Doyle, counselor assistant in the State Department, Mr. Byrnes, who was at the Waldorf-Astoria last night to attend a dinner of the Overseas Press Club, acknowledged that he had written a letter to the Mayor. He said it was a general letter asking the Mayor to cooperate with the United Nations committee, but he added he preferred not to discuss the contents or make any statement about it because he did not have the "general context" before him. Elsewhere it was learned that the State Department had guaranteed to underwrite a contract that would permit the UNO to extend its stay at Hunter until buildings on a permanent site in the Westchester-Fairfield area were ready to receive the delegates. This might take five years. The Mayor conferred for forty-five minutes with Dr. Ordway Tead, chairman of the Board of

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# UNO SEAT IN BRONX AD INTERIM LIKELY

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Higher Education; George N. Shuster, Hunter College president; Bronx Borough President James J. Lyons, Corporation Counsel John J. Bennett and Grover A. Whalen, chairman of the Mayor's UNO committee, to discuss developments in the site problem.

"All we're concerned with now are the immediate needs of the UNO," the Mayor told reporters. He added that all were agreed on a contract for temporary use of the gymnasium building, Davis Hall and the 2,500-seat cafeteria at the college. He emphasized that there was no discussion of permanent occupancy of Hunter and he repeated he had not received any formal request for additional buildings.

Asked about extending UNO's stay for three to five years, the Mayor replied:

"That question has not arisen."

Mr. Lyons, reporting that "everybody was in accord," reiterated his hope that the UNO would acquire the college's thirty-six acres not only for five years but "permanently."

## Students Still Apprehensive

Earlier, a committee representing the students' self-government association of Hunter College visited City Hall and left 450 petitions bearing 3,534 signatures of students and Bronx residents who expressed apprehension over the effects that the loss of the college buildings would have on the city's educational program if the UNO was to become a permanent occupant.

A. H. Feller, general counsel for the UNO, spoke with city officials concerning legal arrangements for taking over part of Hunter as temporary headquarters.

David Vaughan, administrative officer, a member of the United States Department of Commerce, inspected the quarters yesterday. He will be in charge when David K. Owen, executive assistant to Secretary General Trygve Lie, leaves for London Sunday to pre-

sent his report on interim facilities.

The buildings have not been painted in six years, but the Navy, which occupied the premises as a training center for Waves, has contracted to have everything shipshape by Sept. 1. As fast as equipment can be installed in offices, administrative assistants will start working.

Establishment of a United Nations Department of Public Information, with offices at 610 Fifth Avenue, was announced yesterday afternoon. It will replace the United Nations information organization, a wartime cooperative agency of nineteen countries, which yesterday voted its own dissolution and transferred its offices and assets to the UNO. Pending the arrival from London March 15 of V. Duckworth Barker, UNO's acting director of information, the department will be headed by Dr. W. Bryant Mumford, interim public relations officer and assistant to Mr. Barker.

## Baldwin Reassures People

HARTFORD, Conn., Feb. 28 (AP)—Asserting that the community ultimately selected as the site of United Nations world headquarters would "benefit immeasurably," Gov. Raymond E. Baldwin expressed confidence today that the rights of citizens would be fully protected.

In a statement addressed to members of his advisory committee on UNO headquarters and the Connecticut commission on inter-governmental cooperation, Mr. Baldwin said:

"The area will remain United States territory and territory of the State in which it is located. Citizens who remain in the area will retain the rights of United States citizens, including the exercise of the right to vote and their constitutional liberties."

## W. H. Stoneman Aide to Lie

CHICAGO, Feb. 28 (AP)—William H. Stoneman, London correspondent of The Chicago Daily News and European manager of The Daily News foreign service, has been granted a leave of absence to become personal assistant to Trygve Lie, Secretary General of the United Nations Organization. The Daily News said today Mr. Stoneman would accompany Mr. Lie during the Secretary's forthcoming visit to the United States.